Released: June 11, 2010   Media Contact: Vince Matthews

Idaho Potato Stocks Up 9.5 percent from Last Year

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on June 1 totaled 23.0 million cwt, 2.0 million cwt more than on hand June 1, 2009, but unchanged from the amount on hand June 1, 2008. Disappearance, at 108 million cwt is up from last year's 95.5 million cwt. Disappearance during May, at 13.5 million cwt, is the largest May disappearance since May 2005. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 1.5 million cwt, and the Other counties' stocks totaled 21.5 million cwt. Stocks by region could not be published for June 1, 2009 due to disclosure policy. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 6.83 million cwt of 2009 crop raw potatoes during May, down 7.3 percent from May 2009. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon have used 62.9 million cwt of 2009 crop raw potatoes to June 1, virtually the same as last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 55.7 million cwt of the total processed. The remaining 7.23 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, the 13 major potato States held 51.3 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2010, up 13 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 13 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production, one percentage point above June 1, 2009. Potato disappearance, at 333 million cwt, was 2 percent above June 1, 2009. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 28.5 million cwt, was up 20 percent from the same date in 2009. Processors in the 9 major States have used 160 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 5 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 29.9 million cwt of the total processing, down 6 percent from last year.

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